

## CLAIMS

1. A transdermal dosage form comprising: a non-5 $\alpha$ -reducible, 7 $\alpha$ -modified androgen in a therapeutically effective amount, said androgen being dispersed within a pharmaceutically acceptable transdermal carrier, whereby said transdermal dosage form has a flux which is greater than that of testosterone in a similar formulation, said therapeutically effective amount comprising an amount of said non-5 $\alpha$ -reducible, 7 $\alpha$ -modified androgen sufficient to deliver between about 400 to about 1,600 micrograms of said androgen in bioavailable form over a 24-hour period.

2. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1 wherein said 7 $\alpha$ -modified androgen is a 7 $\alpha$ -methyl-19-nortestosterone.

3. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1 wherein said androgen is provided in an amount of between about 0.5 to about 90% by weight of the dosage form.

4. The transdermal dosage form of claim 3 wherein said androgen is provided in an amount of between about 1.0 to about 80% by weight of the dosage form.

5. The transdermal dosage form of claim 4 wherein said androgen is provided in an amount of between about 5.0 to about 50% by weight of the dosage form.

6. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1 wherein said dosage form has a flux greater than that exhibited by an equal amount of testosterone when administered through an otherwise identical transdermal dosage form.

7. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1 wherein said pharmaceutically-acceptable transdermal carrier is an ointment.

8. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1 wherein said pharmaceutically-acceptable transdermal carrier is a gel.

9. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1 wherein said pharmaceutically-acceptable transdermal carrier is a cream.

10. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1 wherein said pharmaceutically-acceptable transdermal carrier is a lotion.

11. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1 wherein said pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier is a powder.

12. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1 wherein said pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier is a spray.

13. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1 wherein said pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier is a transdermal patch.

14. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1 wherein said transdermal carrier is selected from the group consisting of ointments, gels, creams, lotions, powders, sprays and transdermal patches.

15. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1 wherein said transdermal carrier is a transdermal patch or gel.

16. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1 having a flux of greater than about  $4 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2/\text{hour}$ .

17. A transdermal dosage form comprising a non-5 $\alpha$ -reducible androgen in a therapeutically effective amount, said androgen being dispersed within a pharmaceutically acceptable transdermal carrier, said therapeutically effective amount of said non-5 $\alpha$ -reducible androgen comprising at least 2 mg of said androgen.

18. The transdermal dosage form of claim 17 wherein said non-5 $\alpha$ -reducible androgen is a 7 $\alpha$ -modified androgen.

19. The transdermal dosage form of claim 18 wherein said 7 $\alpha$ -modified androgen is a 7 $\alpha$ -methyl-19-nortestosterone.

20. The transdermal dosage form of claim 19 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable transdermal carrier is selected from the group consisting of an ointment, a gel, a cream, a lotion, a powder, a spray, and a transdermal patch.

21. The transdermal dosage form of claim 20 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable transdermal carrier is selected from the group consisting of a transdermal patch and a gel.

22. The transdermal dosage form of claim 17 wherein said androgen is present in an amount of about 0.5 to about 90% by

weight relative to the weight of said pharmaceutically acceptable transdermal carrier.